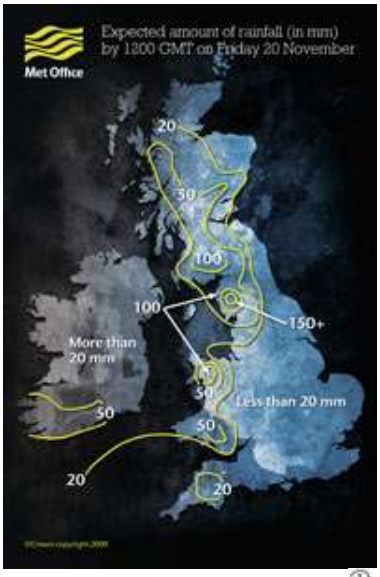
© Crown copyright • www.metoffice.gov.uk

Extreme weather batters north-west Britain

19 November 2009



Unsettled weather is expected to continue across the UK over the next few days, with heavy rain and gale-force winds bringing the risk of flooding in places.

In the 24 hours to 11 a.m. Thursday, Seathwaite (Cumbria) has recorded 173 mm of rain, Shap (Cumbria) 71.6 mm, Keswick (Cumbria) 64.2 mm and Eskdalemuir (Dumfries and Galloway) 57.8 mm.

The heaviest of the rain will continue to fall over Cumbria, western parts of Scotland and north Wales through today. An additional of 75 to 100 mm of rain is expected over parts of these regions by midday Friday, and 150 mm more over the higher fells of Cumbria.

Severe gales will accompany the rain, with gusts of 65 to 75 m.p.h. in many western coastal areas, and up to 95 m.p.h. over the fells and mountains. This, combined with current high tides, brings the risk of coastal flooding to Dumfries and Galloway and Cumbria on Thursday.

Met Office Chief Forecaster, Bob Wilderspin, says: “This spell of wet and windy weather comes hot on the heels of the storm last weekend. The rain will fall on areas that are already saturated and we are working closely with agencies, local authorities and emergency services to ensure they are prepared. You are advised to keep up to date with the latest forecast on TV, radio or online.”

There will be a brief respite on Friday, before gales and heavy rain return from the Atlantic on Saturday.

UK forecast weather

UK severe weather warnings

What to do in severe weather

SEPA Floodline (Scotland)

Environment Agency Floodline (England and Wales)

Contact information

Met Office Press Office: **+44 (0)1392 886655**

E-mail: Press Office

Met Office Customer Centre: **0870 900 0100**

If you’re outside the UK: **+44 1392 885680**